

# San Diego DX Club Bulletin



September 2013



Puerto Baquerizo Moreno  
San Cristobal Island  
Galapagos  
Ecuador

IOTA SA-004

**HD8A**

After running the pile-ups  
all night, the low band  
ops are snoozing on the  
benches

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

For real time DX spotting and lively conversation on a variety of subjects, join us on 144.415 MHz.

## SEPTEMBER PROGRAM:

W6YA, Jim, will tell us about his search for DX in all the entities on the deleted list.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTICE:

**JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER**

**AERO DRIVE & MURPHY CANYON RD**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2013**

**SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M.**

**DINNER, 5:30 P.M.**

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| A Word from the Prez     | 2   |
| Vice President 's Report | 3   |
| Secretary/Treasurer Rpt  | 4   |
| SDDXC Results            | 5   |
| How's DX                 | 6   |
| General Interest Items   | 7-9 |



**President:**

**Dan Severance, N6ERD**

(858) 449-8526

daniel\_severance@yahoo.com

**Vice President:**

**Wild Bill Wiederhold, WB6BFG**

**(760) 721-2927**

wb6bfg@arrl.net

**Secretary/Treasurer:**

**Ellen Utschig, N6UWW**

(760) 721-2927

elenalaloca@cox.net

**Past President:**

**John Barcroft, K6AM**

(858) 587-8061

k6am@arrl.net

**Board of Directors:**

**John Vissat, NA6L**

CQ-NA6L@hotmail.com

**Ed Felter, AI6O**

(619) 668-0928

ai6o@arrl.net

**Bob Grimmick, N6OX**

(949) 573-1070

n6ox@yahoo.com

**Ladder:**

**John Barcroft, K6AM**

k6am@arrl.net

**Webmaster:**

**Arnie Lewin, W7BIA**

**Historian:**

**Glenn Rattmann, K6NA**

(760) 749-3936

k6na@cts.com

**Bulletin Editor:**

**Ron Stockton, N0RR**

(760) 224-7139

rjstockton@cox.net

## A Word from the Prez . . .

*Dan Severance, N6ERD*

Thanks to Glenn and Jane for their wonderful hospitality and a great time getting together with the Los Angeles area DXers! This year's bash was a great success and the weather could not have cooperated more, a good time was had by all!

Next, I popped a few e-mails on the reflectors for quickie DXpeditions during the week before this month's meeting and hopefully some of you were able to work them.

Coming up in the next month will be Rotuma as 3D2GC/p from Sept 27<sup>th</sup> to Oct 11<sup>th</sup>, and Bhutan might be tricky – A52YY operating SSB 10-20M evenings and nights using 100W into dipoles. Get the ears going and anyone that finds them feel free to post to the reflector or call your friends!

As always – major DX contests will be a plentiful source of DX – First will be CQWW DX RTTY coming up September 28 00:00z, to September 29<sup>th</sup> 23:59z. For SSB there is the CQWW DX SSB which is a big one the weekend after next month's meeting Oct 25, 26th! All you need to do to get in the log of the DX station is tell them "59 03" (our CQ zone number) in the SSB contest – or "599 03" for the RTTY contest this weekend and the CQWW DX CW contest in November.

Finally October 5-6<sup>th</sup> is the one time of year you will find some DX and all states and Canadian provinces looking SPECIFICALLY for California stations! Once again it is the California QSO party so get on the air, if you find DX looking for a California station the exchange that gets you in the log is a QSO number (001 for your first contact, 002, 003, etc) and your county – SDIE for San Diego.

## THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE AT THE SIZZLER.

CU There.

73, Dan, N6ERD

## Vice President's Report

### Wild Bill, WB6BFG



Greeting to all!

This month's meeting will be at the Sizzler as usual. I've talked to the manager, James, and he says that construction is still going on but nothing has been done inside the banquet room. New A/C units, coolers and exterior stucco are being done first. Our guest speaker for the evening will be our own esteemed Hall of Fame member Jim McCook, W6YA. The program will cover W6YA's search for DX in all the entities on the deleted list. Some examples will be given with the pre- and post- deletion QSLs, and some comments about these places that have been a result of many an interesting research. After all, the often thought of "exotic DX" on that list represents areas of the world that still exist! Only the politics and a few borders were changed. This is a different challenge in DXing that will suck you in relentlessly!

Next month's presentation will be by our own world renowned author Larry Serra, N6NC. He has put together a program about: The use of CW Skimmers and Reverse Beacon Network (RBN) for DX propagation, Judging Station Signal Strengths at DX Locations and using these as Propagation Tools & Antenna Relative Strength Testers. This might dispel some of the mystery about skimmers and skimmer information, and demonstrate its utility for DXers and testers. This will be most informative. If you have any ideas on other programs that you'd to see, please let me know.

Sure hope that some of you got to go the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention in Buellton! I didn't make it as I was on a four week trip up to Bend, OR where I was on serious Opa (German for grandpa) mission! Plus a Ham Campout along the Crooked River.

If you're still in need of a convention fix, don't despair! The 2013 Pacificon Amateur Radio Convention is right around the corner. This year's event will be returning to the Magnificent Santa Clara Venue:

Marriott Santa Clara Hotel <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sjcga-santa-clara-marriott/>  
2700 Mission College Blvd.  
Santa Clara, California 95054  
(408) 988-1500

For events, latest updates and registration go to: [www.PACIFICON.org](http://www.PACIFICON.org) For hotel lodging: Make reservations before September 26, 2013, to qualify for the special Pacificon rate of \$109/night. To make reservations on-line with special Pacificon Group Code rate already entered, [CLICK HERE](#). Or, call the Marriott Hotel Reservations Desk at 1-800-228-9290 and ask for the Pacificon rate.

For those you who are not on the SCCC reflector mailing list: Jim, AF6O, has done a heck of job on the club website. He says that the club website <http://www.socalcontestclub.org/> is up and running now. Some of the information on the site may be out of date, if any corrections are needed please let him know. He would also like to hear any ideas for content people would like to see on the site or if you have any content please send it to him. He has also posted the August 2013 NAQP CW Preliminary Results for SCCC on the website.

I heard mixed reports on DX this month, but it appears that I didn't miss too much. The League's bulletin shows that there are a number of active operations and you can read about it here: <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw-bulletins-archive/ARLD038/2013> Also you can check out NG3K's detailed list of active operations at this link <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

For the new members of the group next month should be a lot of fun with the CQWW SSB contest happening at the end of the month. The dates are: 0000Z, Oct 26 to 2400Z, Oct 27, 2013 and more information can be found at <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

Please remember that the club's newsletter is only as good as the information Ron receives, so please take the time to submit any DX related stories, tall tales or musings of a madman (or crazy lady) to him for consideration. Thanks Ron for all you do!

73 & 88's to the pretty ones ~

*Wild Bill, WB6BFG*



## Treasurers Report Ellen, N6UWW



### Secretary's Report

Correction to August minutes: Art Goddard's call should have been published as W6XD not W6HD.

### Treasurer's Report

87 members

Statement Balance 8/30/2013 \$5968.06

#### Debits

Check #576 \$210.77 K6NA (Summer Bash expenses)

Check # 577 \$50.00 STC Network Systems (website hosting fee)

Check #578 \$1085.76 WB6BFG (Summer Bash expenses)

Check #579 \$11.87 WB6BFG (reimburse for July speaker's meal)

Deposits \$300.00 SCDX Summer Bash contribution

Ellen, N6UWW

## Editor's Ramblings

Ron, N0RR

Thanks to Charlie NN3V, John K6AM, Wayne NN6R, Joe W6VNR, Jim W6YA and Harry W6YOO for their input this month.

Finally, the summer DX doldrums are behind us and activity is picking up on all of the bands. Most notably is the XZ1Z operation that showed up on the 17th and kept things interesting until the 23rd. My focus was to work them on 80, 40 and 10, but I only met 33% of my goal. Although I got up early everyday and was on the band before their 1135Z sunset, I never heard them on 80m because they were not on during our 2 hour propagation window. Checking the statistics in Club Log with 15,557 QSOs posted, I see my disappointment was shared by many in NA.

Only 1,163 NA QSOs = 7.5% of the total

80m NA = 2

40m NA = 42

10m NA = 1

I know W6YA and I were two of the 42 on 40m and I will be interested in learning if any other SDDXC members logged them there. 10m was near impossible because the SSNs and flux were just too low to sustain the path after our sunset. I only heard them briefly on LP at 0030Z on the 20th.

Otherwise, FO/KH0PR provided some fun by activating several IOTAs recently: OC-094, OC-131 and OC-238. I do not collect IOTAs, but I looked these up on a map of the Pacific and they seemed very remote and therefore, may be several of the rare ones.

Also caught Masa A35JP/H on Ha'api, OC-169.

Now that the stormy weather has dissipated to our east, we can actually hear signals, not just S7 QRN, on 80m. So put some "DX wax" on your low band antennas and work some new band countries. I recall reading a few months ago that a DXpedition is planned for Wake Is, KH9, in October. Should be very easy from SD.

Ron, N0RR

SDDXC TOP 10  
By John, K6AM

The SDDXC Top Ten is on vacation this month

SDDXC RESULTS  
2012 CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY

| CLASS  | CALL              | SCORE   | CW<br>QSO'S | SSB<br>QSO'S | TOT<br>QSO'S | ML<br>TS | FINISH                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SO HP  | W6YI<br>(N6MJ op) | 431,549 | 1,298       | 1,772        | 3,070        | 58       | <b>1<sup>st</sup> place CA <u>NEW RECORD.</u></b><br><b>1<sup>st</sup> place SDG <u>NEW RECORD</u></b><br><b>Most SSB Q's</b><br><b>First to 58 mults</b><br>Wine winner |
| SO HP  | K6NA<br>(N6ED op) | 336,528 | 1,046       | 1,383        | 2,429        | 57       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> place SD County SOHP<br>3rd place CA SOHP<br>Wine winner                                                                                                 |
| SO HP  | N6NC              | 78,939  | 537         | 0            | 537          | 49       | 4th place SD County SOHP                                                                                                                                                 |
| SO HP  | N5ZO/6            | 46,623  | 300         | 25           | 325          | 49       | 5th place SD County SOHP                                                                                                                                                 |
| SO HP  | AI6O              | 30,744  | 244         | 0            | 244          | 42       | 7th place SD County SOHP                                                                                                                                                 |
| SO HP  | W6YOO             | 1,003   | 0           | 29           | 29           | 17       |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|        |                   |         |             |              |              |          |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| SO LP  | K6AM              | 245,043 | 935         | 747          | 1,682        | 57       | <b>1<sup>st</sup> place CA SOLP</b><br><b>1<sup>st</sup> place SD County SOLP</b><br>Wine winner                                                                         |
| SO LP  | WN6K              | 150,093 | 625         | 451          | 1,076        | 54       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> place SD County SOLP                                                                                                                                     |
| SO LP  | W6/NN3V           | 79,000  | 444         | 124          | 568          | 50       | 3rd place SD County SOLP                                                                                                                                                 |
| SO LP  | AD6ZJ             | 38,352  | 0           | 376          | 376          | 51       | 5th place SD County SOLP                                                                                                                                                 |
|        |                   |         |             |              |              |          |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| M/S E  | NX6T *            | 295,203 | 954         | 1,158        | 2,112        | 57       | <b>1<sup>st</sup> place CA M/S EXP</b>                                                                                                                                   |
| M/S E  | K6QK *            | 285,627 | 891         | 1,169        | 2,060        | 57       | 2nd place CA M/S EXP                                                                                                                                                     |
|        |                   |         |             |              |              |          |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| M/S YL | AF6WF             | 19,608  | 0           | 228          | 228          | 43       |                                                                                                                                                                          |

\* NX6T ops = N6KI, N6CY, AF6WF, K6KAL, K6GO, NA6MB, WB6NBU, K4RB, W2PWS

\* K6QK ops = N7CW, K6ZH, NN6X, N6EEG, N6ERD

Dan, N6MJ stuns the contesting world by beating his own records yet again. Nice work Dan! The rivalry between the K6QK memorial team and The San Diego Contest Club, NX6T continued with both teams setting up field day style. NX6T was at "Nashville" in Bonsall and the K6QK gang was out at the castle on I-8 just across the Imperial Co. line.

The 47th running of the CQP is slated for October 5-6, 2013. It runs from 1600 UTC Oct 5 to 2200 UTC Oct 6. Go to [cqpc.org](http://cqpc.org) for rules, county abbreviations and all the other details. Last year's top scorers from our club are already putting finishing touches on their plans for 2013.

# How's DX?

This page consists of historical data so members can share information or brag about their accomplishments. For real time info, monitor the club 2m spotting frequency, 144.415 MHz. For future DX info subscribe to the ARRL weekly DX bulletin and/or W3UR's newsletter.

DX worked by SDDXC members during late August and early September

| Station  | Band    | Date   | Time | By   | Station  | Band      | Date   | Time | By   |
|----------|---------|--------|------|------|----------|-----------|--------|------|------|
| 3B9EME   | 20 CW   | 6-Sep  | 0317 | W6YA | HZ1SM    | 15 SSB    | 5-Sep  | 1312 | W6YA |
| 3B9EME   | 15 CW   | 6-Sep  | 1715 | W6YA | JT5DX    | 80 CW     | 1-Sep  | 1312 | W6YA |
| 3B9EME   | 18 SSB  | 8-Sep  | 1448 | NN6R | RC9O     | 80 CW     | 21-Sep | 1258 | N0RR |
| 5W1SA    | 40 CW   | 23-Aug | 0446 | N0RR | S21R     | 14 SSB    | 2-Sep  | 1445 | NN6R |
| 7Z1BL    | 15 SSB  | 5-Sep  | 1554 | W6YA | SU9AF    | 15 CW     | 5-Sep  | 1629 | W6YA |
| 9K2GS    | 40 SSB  | 10-Sep | 1425 | W6YA | TU5DF    | 14 CW     | 29-Aug | 0057 | NN6R |
| A25JK    | 14 SSB  | 8-Sep  | 1411 | NN6R | V5/DF2UU | 40 CW     | 10-Sep | 0525 | NN6R |
| A35JP/H  | 80 CW   | 19-Sep | 1237 | N0RR | V5/DF2UU | 40 CW     | 11-Sep | 0119 | N0RR |
| A45XF    | 18 CW   | 5-Sep  | 1353 | NN6R | V6G      | 18 SSB    | 13-Sep | 2255 | NN6R |
| A45XR    | 14 RTTY | 4-Sep  | 1455 | NN6R | VU2SMN   | 15 SSB    | 5-Sep  | 1515 | W6YA |
| A45XR    | 17 CW   | 5-Sep  | 1358 | W6YA | XV4Y     | 14 CW     | 29-Aug | 1351 | NN6R |
| A45XR    | 12 CW   | 5-Sep  | 1609 | W6YA | XV9NPS   | 40 CW     | 2-Sep  | 1345 | N0RR |
| A92HK    | 18 SSB  | 4-Sep  | 1722 | NN6R | XW1YC    | 20 CW     | 5-Sep  | 1345 | W6YA |
| A92HK    | 15 SSB  | 5-Sep  | 1509 | W6YA | XZ1Z     | 30        | 17-Sep | 1145 | N0RR |
| BA4TB    | 80 CW   | 19-Sep | 1335 | N0RR | XZ1Z     | 40 CW     | 17-Sep | 1358 | N0RR |
| BU2AQ    | 80 CW   | 21-Sep | 1143 | N0RR | Z81R     | 15 CW     | 11-Sep | 1831 | W6YA |
| D44AC    | 14 SSB  | 28-Aug | 0000 | NN6R | Z81R     | 18 CW     | 13-Sep | 2249 | NN6R |
| FO/KH0PR | 80 CW   | 20-Sep | 1049 | N0RR | ZD7FT    | 10 CW     | 25-Aug | 2012 | N0RR |
| FR4NT    | 18 SSB  | 29-Aug | 1738 | NN6R | ZD9KX    | 14 SSB    | 2-Sep  | 1441 | NN6R |
| FR4PV    | 15 SSB  | 5-Sep  | 1522 | W6YA | ZD9KX    | 20 SSB LP | 2-Sep  | 1442 | W6YA |

Joe, W6VNR attended the Tokyo HamVention in Tokyo in Aug 2013. The Japan DX club had special meeting and dinner the Sat evening of convention. See <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pIgausPLYMY>

Another video of HamVention Japan it is interesting to see. It is held at Tokto BIG SIE convention center, it can hold 8 conventions at once, it is THAT BIG, believe me it is BIG. Like maybe 4-6 times as large as our SD convention center. There are 4-6 hotels and many restaurants near by for visitors so lodging is not an issue.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cI9R2W53AO4>

Picture of "610" club of hot DXers beer party after convention. Plus W6vVNR and 2 Germans who always attend the convention. The convention seemed even larger than 3 yrs ago when I last attended. Lots of fun meeting all the JA's. The week after, I spend going to Akaharbra electronics district and touring Yokohama with JA friends. Also operated a bit as JH1KTY.



## HAM RADIO IS A MASH-UP

During presentations on amateur (“Ham”) radio contribution to emergency communications, many times I am asked questions by people trying to understand how it is that amateur radio is such an effective and reliable communication mechanism, yet is also touted as a hobby but available to the public “for free”.

Answers from hams are predictable. They emphasize amateur radio use of modern technology, dedication of individual hams to the public service role, that hams bring their equipment to the service, non-pecuniary nature of ham radio, etc.

Yet the public remains puzzled.

After all, except for the non-pecuniary aspect, those answers also apply to the commercial infrastructure. The commercial and public resources are certainly not “free”, however people needing emergency services will not bother to consider cost when the need is urgently needed.

I offer the following as another approach to answering the question.

The distinguishing characteristic ham radio brings to emergency service communications is a “Mash-up”.

At least three factors lead to the mash-up: operating time; operating objectives; multidisciplinary resources.

Let us examine each of these factors.

Operating time. Individual hams operate nearly continuously. There isn’t a prescribed time for operating our equipment. Hams who are wage earners will find slivers of time to turn on their equipment and operate their favorite mode or band, while those with unlimited time will do similar operating perhaps many hours a day. Thus, thousands of hams are practicing their skills, and ensuring their equipment is fully functional every day of the week, not just at some publicly targeted operating event.

Operating objectives. Each ham has particular interests that achieve an objective. Some try to operate continuously while divorced from the commercial power grid. Others look to operate at very low power, gaining practice in techniques to overcome poor operating conditions. Some aim at using entirely home-brewed antennas. These and numerous other examples populate thousands of special skills that contribute to instant availability of equipment and techniques independent of any other resource.

Multidisciplinary resources. We are knowledgeable in a plethora of skills acquired over many years of licensed operating. They allow us to overcome the most adverse conditions. So each amateur operating under emergency conditions is accustomed to self-sufficiency. There is no expectation that the IT department will come fix the misbehaving computer, or the electrician will set up the power sources or repair those that failed, or that someone is going to arrange for back-up power, etc. The ham operating in an emergency condition is self-sufficient. When you add up the thousands of hams who also operate as emergency communicators, you have a human resource capital that can not be duplicated by any officially “organized” emergency resource.

Mash-up: The combination of the above brings about this vital attribute. It is perhaps the lynch-pin for non-hams to understand amateur radio emergency service capability.

As hams go about their hobby, they are exposed to the expected emergency services in their neighborhoods. Hams also create numerous primary emergency communication networks such as CERT, ARES, RACES that are deployed from emergency centers nationwide. At the tail end of those networks (in the commercial world it

is called the Point Of Service or POS) is a ham who is known in their community. As you multiply those POSs by the thousands of hams who pick up their radios when an emergency strikes – and the commercial infrastructure fails due to overloading, power failure, equipment destruction, etc all of which hams overcome – the hams multiply by thousands the information dissemination function in an emergency.

In the modern technology equivalent - the World Wide Web - this is known as **“mash-up”**.

It is the reason Facebook, Twitter, eBay, etc., are so successful. It is how so many entrepreneurs are funding their start-ups on a mash-up site. The users of these websites self-create nets because thousands of people know where to go on the web to get certain things. The problem with the commercial mash-up during an emergency is the fragility of all the resources needed to keep the web operating.

So when someone asks you: Why is ham radio the emergency communication system that never fails?

The answer is very simple: **“Because emergency amateur radio communications are a MASH-UP”**.

**NN3V**

**Charlie Ristorcelli**

[nn3v@arrrl.net](mailto:nn3v@arrrl.net)

FOR SALE:

Flex-5000A S/N 1610/2790 with second receiver and automatic antenna tuner

Firewire card & cable

Yaesu MH-31 microphone

DC cable with power poles

Owners Manual

Board Documentation - Schematics & Parts

Additional Operation, Setup, Release notes

Original box and everything else that came with it

Price: \$2400 plus shipping or local pick up

No dings or scratch, None smoker of any thing.

Reason: I purchased a F6.7KGPSDO no need for another radio

**Ernest - W4EG (c) 805-300-2105) or (h) 760-723-2135**

Here's an interesting recent shot of Jason, KD0MND up on the biggest tower at PJ2T while installing the new So. Pacific antenna.

"Let's see, did I remember to put a lock-washer on this element clamp?"

Courtesy of John K6AM





Harry W6YOO reports: The luncheon with Art Charette , K6XT, took place Friday, 9/13 at the San Marcos Brewery. Art is a SDDXC member now living in CO and was in town on family business.

